



SC Annual School
Report Card
Summary

Great Falls Elementary School
CHESTER COUNTY
Grades: PK-5 Enrollment: 442
Principal: Wendell B. Sumter
Superintendent: Dr. Agnes Slayman
Board Chair: Mrs. Patricia Hensley

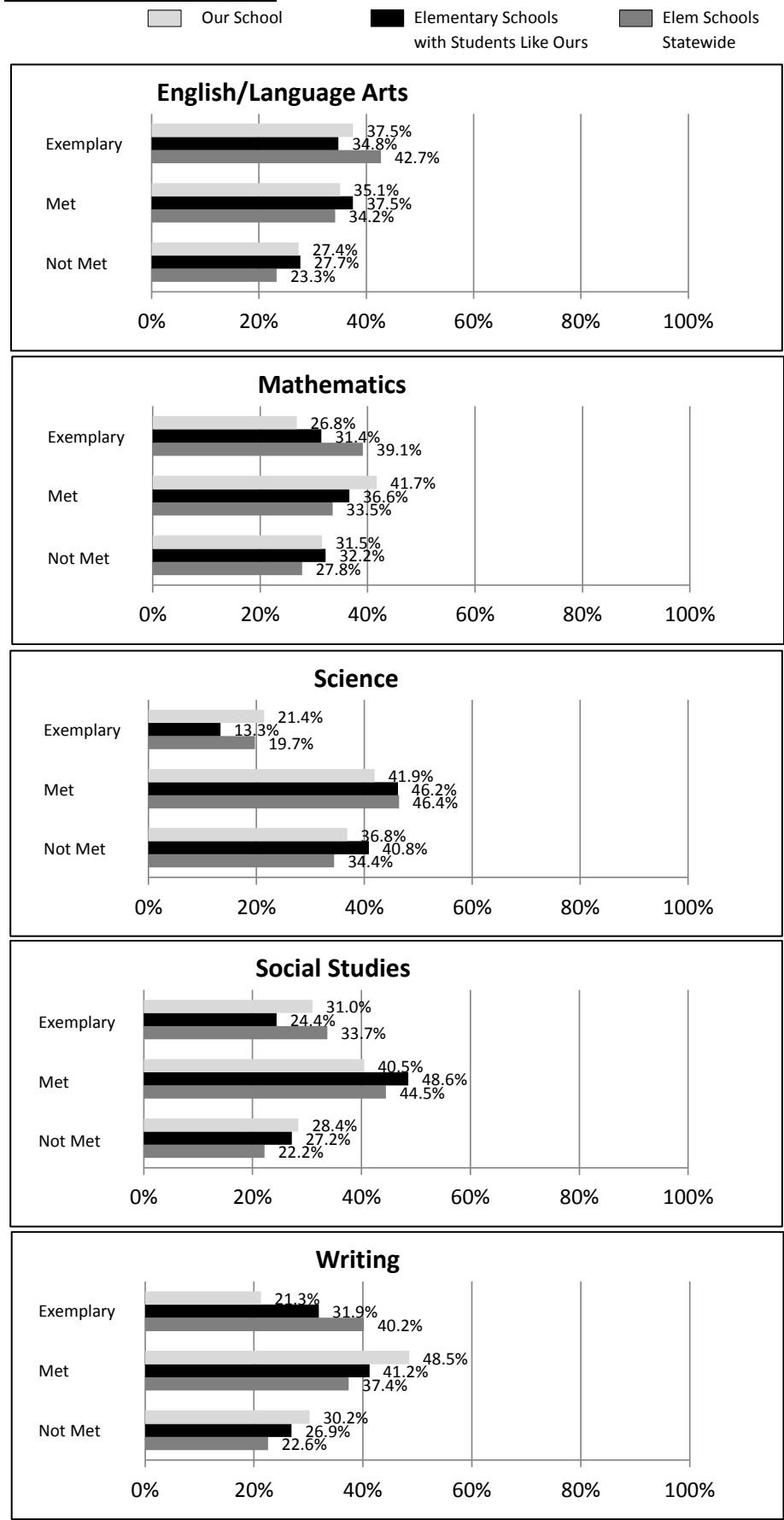
PERFORMANCE		Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.				
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2014	Average	Average	TBD	TBD	B	Reward
2013	Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	D	N/A
2012	Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	B	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
14	16	106	8	1

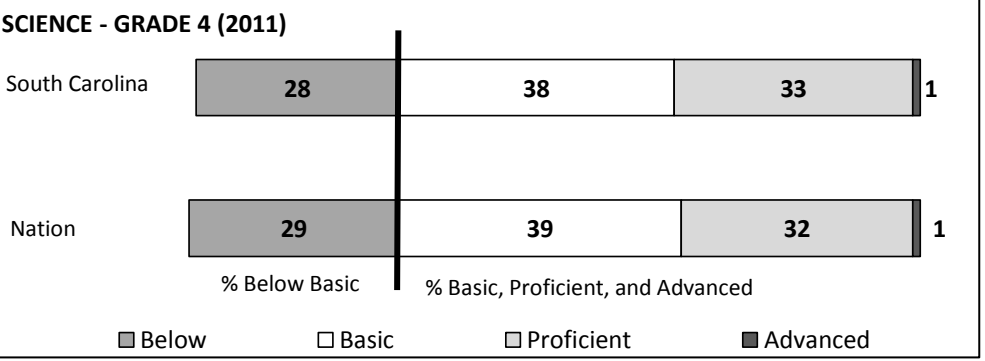
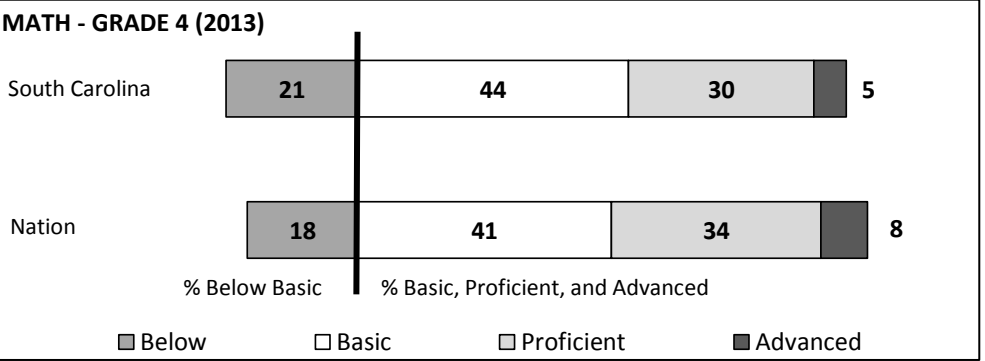
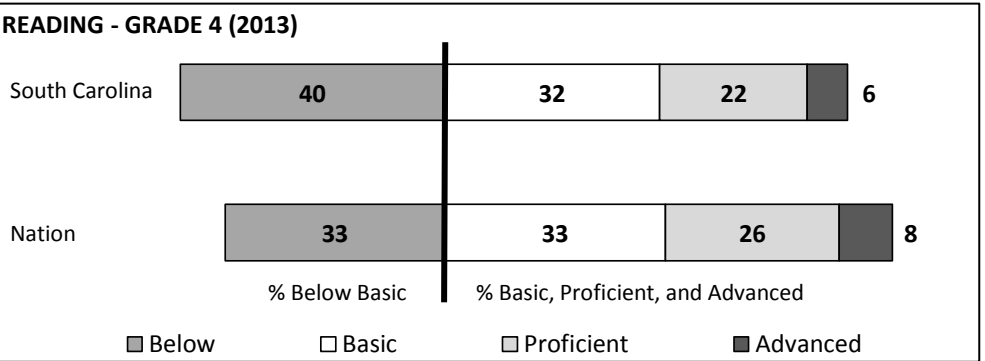
* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

SC PASS PERFORMANCE



NAEP*

*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Abbreviations Key

N/A-Not Applicable	N/AV-Not Available	N/C-Not Collected	N/R-Not Reported	I/S-Insufficient Sample	TBD-To Be Determined
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Great Falls Elementary School
CHESTER COUNTY
SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary Schools
Students (n = 442)				
Retention rate	0.5%	Up from 0.3%	1.4%	1.0%
Attendance rate	96.1%	Up from 95.8%	96.1%	96.5%
Served by gifted and talented program	5.4%	Down from 5.6%	5.0%	7.3%
With disabilities	10.6%	Down from 11.2%	13.6%	12.5%
Older than usual for grade	2.5%	Down from 3.5%	2.3%	1.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.2%	Down from 1.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n = 29)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.6%	Down from 74.1%	60.5%	62.3%
Continuing contract teachers	79.3%	Down from 92.6%	80.8%	81.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	89.3%	Down from 89.7%	87.7%	88.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.9%	Up from 94.1%	95.2%	95.3%
Average teacher salary*	\$46,729	Down 7.1%	\$47,528	\$47,902
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	7.9 days	Up from 3.0 days	11.2 days	10.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	Up from 3.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.4 to 1	Up from 19.7 to 1	19.5 to 1	19.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.7%	Up from 88.2%	90.0%	90.7%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Good	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,925	Up 24.4%	\$7,888	\$7,680
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	66.0%	Down from 69.0%	66.0%	66.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	65.7%	Up from 65.0%	65.0%	66.0%
ESEA composite index score	85.6	Up from 66.3	79.7	85.7

* Length of contract = 185+ days.
**Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	27	48	26
Percent satisfied with learning environment	77.7%	89.6%	88.4%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	96.3%	81.3%	88.5%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	57.1%	77.1%	64.0%

*Only students at the highest elementary school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites.

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REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Great Falls Elementary School is a Title I school in rural Chester County in the upper state of South Carolina, situated approximately halfway between Columbia, SC and Charlotte, NC. The percentage of students at Great Falls Elementary who received free or reduced lunch for the 2013-14 school year was 75%.

Learning, not teaching continues to be the major focus of Great Falls Elementary school as we continue our journey of becoming a Professional Learning Community. As a professional development school and learning community, the master schedule allows grade level teams to meet each week for a common planning time. This enables teams to plan and create common assessments on a regular basis. It also allows teachers to share best practices and strategies that have proven to be successful, resulting in an increase of student achievement. In addition to common planning time, all teams have a common lunch time to allow time for additional communication.

Our principal provided teams with a collection of templates to help guide their work. The templates consisted of SMART goal and team planning sheets to assist in setting a purpose and goal for our team meetings. The teams create norms together and review them annually to maintain time on task during meetings. Teams create SMART goals to guide instruction and progress, analyze data, and reflect to determine if the goals have been met. A data analysis sheet was provided to determine students’ strengths and weaknesses on assessments and to establish a plan for interventions and enrichments. Finally, a team feedback sheet serves as a source to evaluate our team’s performance.

Teachers collaborate with the literacy coach, interventionist, and fine arts teachers to plan intervention strategies. Data results and student performances are shared to determine areas of emphasis for remediation. A plan is developed and implemented to meet students’ needs and provide additional support. Students’ progresses are monitored and intervention plans are adjusted as necessary. During the 2013 – 2014 school year we implemented many new intervention strategies which included: Power Hours, a before and after-school tutorial program based on specific student needs, Success Maker, a computer based instructional program where students in grades 3rd – 5th were required to attend according to a specific schedule. The entire administration, faculty and staff served as interventionists and tutors to all students regardless of the grade level or position held. We adopted the theme “All for One and One for All” and I applaud the entire school community for being committed to our efforts.

Students in grades K- 2nd were provided tutoring by the local churches in our community, once per week.

Great Falls Elementary remains a Professional Development (PD) School with the Winthrop University NetScope grant program. The partnership between Winthrop and the school is two-fold: to increase student achievement and assist in developing high quality teachers. Great Falls Elementary was named a Microsoft Mentor School in 2013. Our staff is dedicated to building our Professional Learning Community and is confident that scores will continue to rise. We are stars of excellence..... determined to shine!

Wendell R Sumter Principal